

Top Secret



25X1

HR



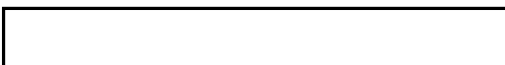
National Intelligence Bulletin

State Dept. review completed

Top Secret

January 28, 1975

25X1



25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

CONTENTS

PORTUGAL: Leaders of major parties publicly trade accusations. (Page 1)

GREECE-TURKEY: Karamanlis calls for the Aegean dispute to be taken to the International Court of Justice. (Page 3)

25X1

ARGENTINA-OAS: Inter-American foreign ministers' meeting postponed indefinitely. (Page 7)

ARGENTINA: Moves against Lopez Rega. (Page 8)

25X1

SOMALIA: Mogadiscio quiet after execution last week of Muslim leaders. (Page 14)

25X1

THAILAND: Democrat Party, far short of a majority, will have to enter into a coalition to form a government. (Page 17)

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

25X1

National Intelligence BulletinJanuary 28, 1975

PORTUGAL

Government unity evaporated completely yesterday, when the leaders of the major parties publicly traded accusations.

Foreign Minister Soares, who heads the Socialist Party, told a press conference that the Portuguese Communist Party is anti-democratic. He said the unitary labor law, passed by the cabinet last week, was an error that the working class would correct. Soares warned that "extremist solutions" could lead to civil war.

Communist Party leader Cunhal responded in a press conference later in the day. He called those who talk of civil war "fascist reactionary plotters." Cunhal denied that his party was planning a coup, adding that those who agitate about coups are merely trying to cover up their own intentions.

All the major parties have issued statements deploring the violence that caused the suspension last weekend of the first congress of the Social Democratic Center Party, the only legal, center-right party in Portugal. The Communists qualified their statement by saying that the closing of the congress was a victory for the masses.

Both the Socialists and the Communists, meanwhile, are preparing for large public rallies in Lisbon on Friday night. The rallies will be staged at close quarters, at virtually the same time. Minister Without Portfolio Vitor Alves said yesterday that the Communists and Socialists would not have an opportunity to clash because they will be following different routes. The potential for violence is great, however, and could lead to a declaration of martial law and a cancellation of the election this spring, an objective of the Communists.

The Socialists were the first to schedule their rally. According to a Soares aide, Prime Minister Goncalves asked the Communists to schedule a demonstration at the same time to provide a pretext for canceling both events. The aide claims the Socialists intend to go ahead.

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

All of this is reminiscent of the frenzied activity last September, when a "silent majority" rally in support of General Spinoia was planned. That rally was canceled just a few hours before it was to begin. Its failure led to the resignation of Spinoia and many of his supporters.

25X1

If another cabinet shakeup occurs, it will be the third since the provisional government was formed. On each occasion, the incoming cabinet was further to the left.

The gradual assumption of power by some combination of Communists and radical leftists seems to be a greater possibility than a coup. A coup would be more likely if the left came to regard some development as a major blow to its political fortunes.

25X1

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

GREECE-TURKEY

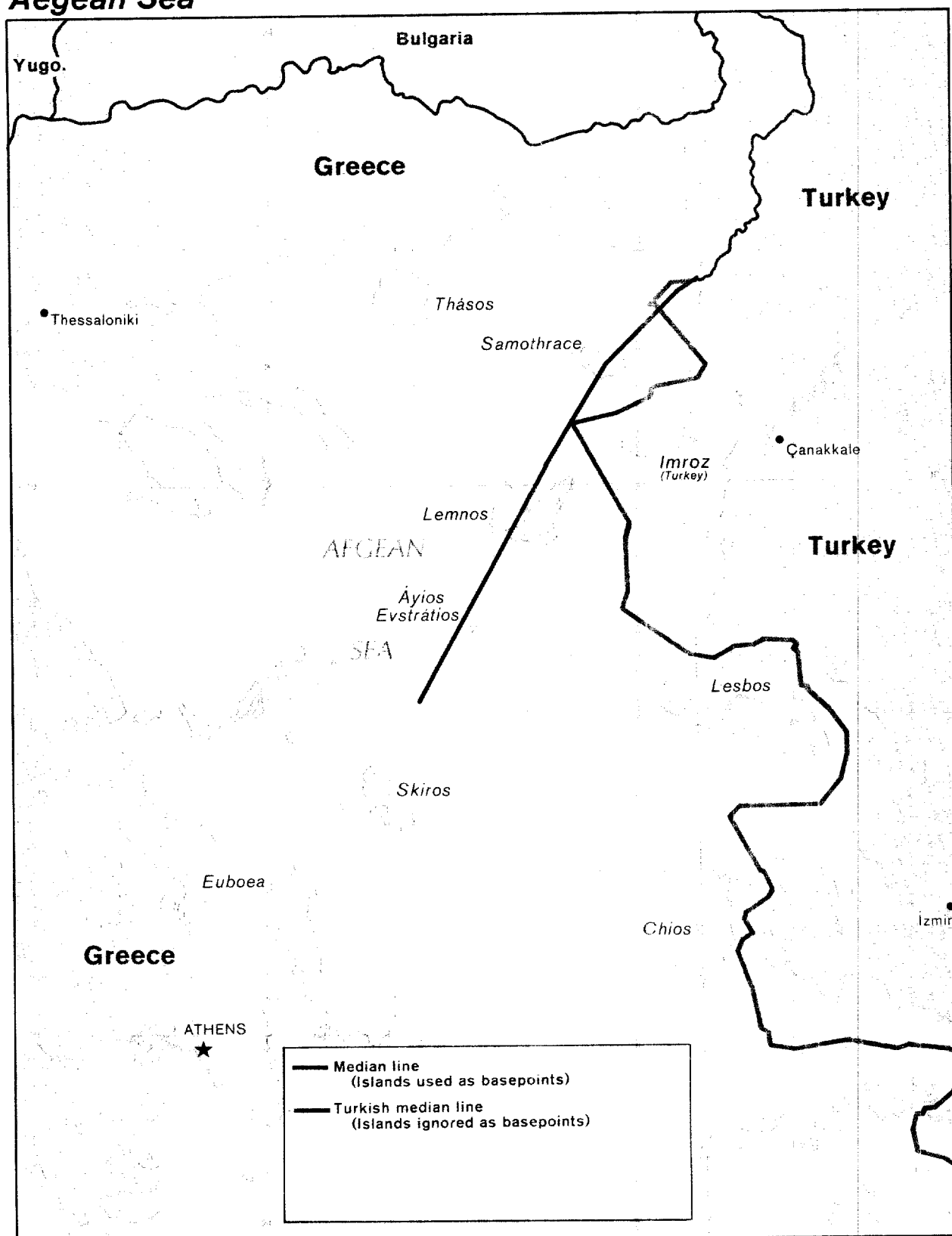
Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis yesterday proposed that the potentially explosive Aegean dispute with Turkey be taken to the International Court of Justice. The Turkish government has not yet responded officially, but the press quotes a military source as saying that Ankara would back such a proposition. In the past, Ankara has pointed to earlier Court decisions to help support its claim to a share of the mineral resources under the Aegean. In recent months, however, Ankara has pressed for direct negotiations with Greece.

The Turks argue that the division of mineral resources under the Aegean seabed should be determined by drawing a median line between the Greek and Turkish mainlands, ignoring the Greek islands. The Greeks, on the other hand, maintain that the islands themselves have continental shelf rights and that the median line should, therefore, be drawn between the easternmost Greek islands and the Turkish mainland. This effectively excludes Turkey from access to the Aegean seabed and any possible oil deposits.

The controversy has heated up in recent weeks as the Turks responded to what they viewed as provocative remarks by the Greek defense minister. Ankara has announced that it would soon begin oil exploration in the disputed area, and it has alerted several Turkish air and ground units.

The Greek government has taken pains to put down rumors of a sharp deterioration in Greek-Turkish relations and emergency military preparations. At the same time, Greek officials have privately expressed growing concern that the Aegean dispute might get out of hand.

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Aegean Sea

557218 1-75

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

National Intelligence Bulletin January 28, 1975



25X1

The Turks may have some difficulty in implementing their announced plan to explore for oil in the Aegean, because the owners of the Norwegian ship they had hoped to use reportedly have refused to permit it to sail into disputed waters. The Irmak government apparently reacted hastily when it announced it would explore in the Aegean, and the Greek offer might provide a face-saving way out.



25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

ARGENTINA-OAS

Argentine Foreign Minister Alberto Vignes announced yesterday that the inter-American foreign ministers' meeting, scheduled for March in Buenos Aires, has been postponed indefinitely. Vignes cited the tense atmosphere created by the US Trade Reform Act as the reason for putting off the meeting.

Last Friday, a special session of the OAS permanent council issued a resolution declaring that the trade act violated commitments the US had made to developing countries and recommending further discussion at the next OAS General Assembly in April. Several Latin governments have expressed strong reservations about conducting the hemispheric dialogue in sporadic meetings of the foreign ministers.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has argued that any issue between Latin countries and the US should be discussed only in the OAS where, he says, "Agreements are more binding."

25X1

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

ARGENTINA

The military's concern over the steadily expanding power of presidential adviser Jose Lopez Rega may soon bring the issue to a head.

According to the US embassy, the three armed forces commanders met with the defense minister last week to protest Lopez Rega's excessive influence in the government. We have no information that the military high command has issued any ultimatum, but the possibility of demands being made on President Peron is greater now than at any time since she assumed office last year.



President Peron and her adviser Jose Lopez Rega

President Peron is resting at an Atlantic beach resort. Her absence from the capital has probably stimulated speculation that Lopez Rega, alone, is running the government--a conclusion that may not be too far off the mark. Her reliance on the controversial minister is increasing alarm in Peronist labor and opposition political circles.

Prominent opposition leader Ricardo Balbin reportedly has taped a TV interview in which he denounces recent heavy-handed actions by the government and criticizes the concentration of power within the newly created presidential secretariat headed by Lopez Rega. The embassy reports that Balbin's party has been in contact with armed forces leaders during the past few weeks and that they may have agreed to a joint stand against the President's key adviser.

If Mrs. Peron does not make some gesture soon to curb Lopez Rega's authority, she may well be headed for a confrontation with the power groups she needs most to guarantee support for her government.

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Next 4 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

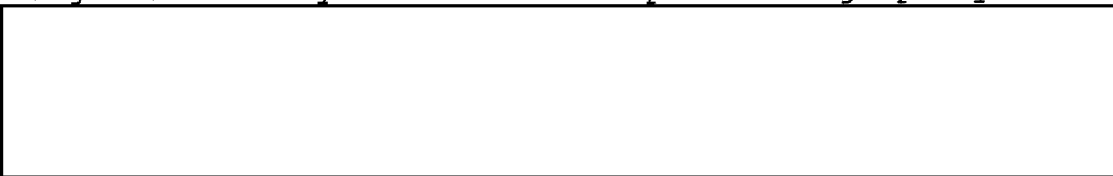
National Intelligence BulletinJanuary 28, 1975

SOMALIA

Somalia has remained relatively quiet in the wake of the government's execution on January 23 of ten Muslim leaders who spoke out against the decree granting equal rights to women. In order to avoid inciting conservative Muslims, state-appointed prayer leaders from government ministries gave the mosque sermons in Mogadiscio on Friday; all other religious leaders have been prohibited from speaking.

Popular resentment against the government's decree has apparently been directed against Soviets in Mogadiscio. Many Somalis have associated the Soviets' presence and the regime's close ties to Moscow with the imposition of unpopular socialist policies. According to the US embassy, the homes of Soviet citizens are being guarded by police, and the Soviets are staying off the streets.

The Arab diplomatic community is said to be shocked and angered by the executions. Arab governments may react by reducing or canceling their financial assistance to the economically hard-pressed government of President Siad. The decision to have Somalia host the next Arab League summit may also have been placed in jeopardy.



25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

National Intelligence Bulletin

January 28, 1975

THAILAND

The final votes are not yet in, but it is already clear that the Democrat Party, led by elder statesman Seni Pramot, has won the largest number of seats in the new parliament. The Democrats have won 72 seats, far short of the 135 seats needed for a majority in the lower house. As things now stand, Seni will have to enter into a coalition with at least four other parties to form a government.

A moderate and middle-of-the-road party, the Democrats have for many years represented the only organized opposition to military rule. Their strong showing in Sunday's election indicates lack of voter confidence in the more wealthy, conservative parties backed by the military and business elite, but the support of at least some of the conservatives will be necessary to form a government. Fragmentation of the votes was greater than anticipated, apparently, in part, because the military did not instruct their troops to vote en masse for any particular party.

If the Democrats succeed in forming a government, Seni will most likely become prime minister. Such a government would tend to be more responsive to press, student, and intellectual clamor for an early US troop withdrawal than would a conservative coalition. Even so, the Democrats are not likely to take any sudden action affecting US interests in the face of opposition from conservative politicians and the military.

Should efforts to form a coalition encounter serious problems, the Democrats will have to decide whether to strike a political compromise with conservative parties not to their liking or retain their traditional role of opposition, leaving it to the conservatives to try to put together a coalition.

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

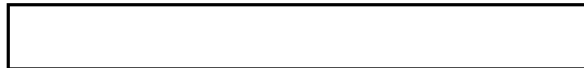
Top Secret

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9

25X1



Top Secret



25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027400010008-9